

Cain and Abel and Seth

Genesis Review

- * God made a good universe culminating with humans to represent him.
- * God gave humans everything good, but they chose their own good and discovered a world of bad.

Cain and Abel - Genesis 4:1-16

On Sunday, we learned that Cain means "received" and Abel means "worthless." How might those names have influenced them?

Somehow, God communicated that Abel's offering was good and Cain's was unacceptable. Though we don't know why exactly God liked Abel's, we get an indication in how the text describes the two offerings and how the text describes Cain's response to the rejection of his offering. What differences do you notice between the two offerings? Do those differences teach you anything about the attitude of the one making the offering?

When Cain's offering was rejected, he got angry and depressed. What do you think was going on in his heart? What was he saying to himself about it all?

When you worship God, what expectations do you bring to the table?

How do you feel when your expectations aren't met?

What is the message God gives to Cain and how might that message apply to people today?

Cain and Sons - Genesis 4:17-24

After reading about the line of Cain's descendants, do you have any hope that this family will turn it around?

Seth... A Ray of Hope - Genesis 4:25-26

What rays of hope do you see in these last few verses?

Take it Home

The main point of this passage is to teach us that the firstborn son Cain, whom we thought would be the savior, proved to be a moral failure, but that God renewed hope through Seth.

- What does that teach you about the nature of people?
- What does that teach you about the nature of God?
- With which character in this story do you most identify?

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